In the Specification:

Please insert the following as the first sentence of the specification:

This application is a § 371 PCT/EP97/00994, filed February 26, 1997, (now WO 97/31944, published on September 4, 1997); which is hereby incorporated by reference, in its entirety.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

37. A short consensus repeat-3 (SCR3)-derived polypeptide containing at least 6 and no more than 23 amino acid residues and comprising a portion of Sequence (I) (SEQ ID NO: 1):

CNPGSGGRKVFELVGEPSIYCTSNDDQVGIWSG (I), wherein the polypeptide has at least one amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) GGRKVF (6-11 OF SEQ ID NO: 1), and

(b) FELVGEPSIY (residues 11-20 of SEQ ID NO: 1).

39. The SCR3- derived polypeptide according to claim 37, further comprising a chemically reactive amino acid residue located at one or both of a position selected from the group consisting of the carboxyl terminus and the amino terminus of the polypeptide.

Sub 64 43. A multimeric polypeptide comprising at least two SCR3-derived polypeptides containing at least 6 and no more than 23 amino acid residues and comprising a portion of Sequence (I) (SEQ ID NO: 1): CNPGSGGRKVFELVGEPSIYCTSNDDQVGIWSG (I), wherein the polypeptide has at least one amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

75

(a) GGRKVF (residues 6-11 of SEQ ID NO: 1), and

(b) FELVGEPSIY (residues of 11-20 of SEQ ID NO: 1), wherein the polypeptides are linked to a core structure.

Sub H8 47. The multimeric polypeptide according to claim 43, which comprises $(lys)_4$ $(lys)_2$ Ala-OH (SEQ ID NO: 6) linked through N-(ε-thiopropionyl) linkers that are disulfide bonded to cysteine thiol of the polypeptide SGGRKVFELVGEPSIYC (SEQ ID NO: 5).

76 Sub G6 48. A chimeric polypeptide comprising a host protein and an SCR3-derived polypeptide containing at least 6 and no more than 23 amino acid residues and comprising a portion of Sequence (I) (SEQ ID NO: 1): CNPGSGGRKVFELVGEPSIYCTSNDDQVGIWSG (I), wherein the polypeptide has at least one amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) GGRKVF (residues 6-11 of SEQ ID NO: 1), and

(b) FELVGEPSIY (residues 11-20 of SEQ ID NO: 1), wherein the SCR3-derived polypeptide is inserted in a region of the host protein that is not essential to the overall architecture or folding pathway of said host protein.

77 Sub G7 52. A process for preparing an SCR3-derived polypeptide containing at least 6 and no more than 23 amino acid residues and comprising a portion of Sequence (I) (SEQ ID NO:

1): CNPGSGGRKVFELVGEPSIYCTSNDDQVGIWSG (I), wherein the polypeptide has at least one amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) GGRKVF (residues 6-11 of SEQ ID NO: 1), and

(b) FELVGEPSIY (RESIDUES 11-20 of SEQ ID NO: 1), comprising the step of: condensing peptide units.

53. A process for preparing an SCR3-derived polypeptide containing at least 6 and no more than 23 amino acid residues and comprising a portion of Sequence (I) (SEQ ID NO: 1): CNPGSGGRKVFELVGEPSIYCTSNDDQVGIWSG (I), wherein the polypeptide has at least one amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) GGRKVF (residues 6-11 of SEQ ID NO: 1), and

(b) FELVGEPSIY (residues 11-20 of SEQ ID NO: 1), comprising the step of: expressing DNA encoding the SCR3-derived polypeptide in a recominant host cell, and recovering the SCR3-derived polypeptide.

54. An isolated polynucleotide encoding an SCR3-derived polypeptide containing at least 6 and no more than 23 amino acid residues wherein the SCR3-derived polypeptide comprises a portion of Sequence (I) (SEQ ID NO: 1): CNPGSGGRKVFELVGEPSIYCTSNDDQVGIWSG (I), wherein the SCR3-derived polypeptide has at least one amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) GGRKVF (residues 6-11 of SEQ ID NO: 1), and

(b) FELVGESPIY (residues 11-20 of SEQ ID NO: 1).

57. A pharmaceutical composition comprising

(1) a therapeutically effective amount of an SCR3-derived polypeptide containing at least 6 and no more than 23 amino acid residues and comprising a portion of Sequence (I) (SEQ ID NO: 1): CNPGSGGRKVFELVGEPSIYCTSNDDQVGIWSG (I), wherein the polypeptide has at least one amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) GGRKVF (residues 6-11 of SEQ ID NO: 1), and

(b) FELVGEPSIY (residues 11-20 of SEQ ID NO: 1), and

(2) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.